Vehicular traffic around India Gate and Connaught Place

340. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for stopping vehicular traffic around India Gate and Connaught Place, and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) In order to reduce the intensity of Congestion to ensure better accessibility through efficient and safe circulation of traffic, to enhance environmental and safety aspects of the area and to impose a certain degree of minimum discipline among various road users, a new traffic circulation scheme for Connaught Place area was introduced in June last year.

The traffic circulation plan on Conanught place has made Radial Roads leading to Connaught Place as one way traffic system. Radial Road Nos. 2, 3, 5 & 7 are outbound and Road Nos. 4, 6, 8 are inbound. Earlier 2, 4, 6 & 8 were two way stretch and this used to create congestion at their junctions with the outer circle.

The traffic police also experimented with a new one-way circulation plan for traffic around the India Gate area. During the experiment the radials leading from the 'C' Hexagon to the inner rotary and the inner rotary itself, was kept closed and the traffic was made to move in 'one-way' in a clock-wise direction. This pattern of circulation was initially maintained during the peak hours of 8 to 11 A.M. and the evening peak hours of 4 to 8.30 P.M. and has now been extended from 8.00 A. M. to 9.00 P.M. every day.

Reduction in strength of work-force in Hindustan Shipyard

341. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the strength of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL);

(b) if so, what is the number of workforce proposed to be reduced out of the total workforce and the reasons therefor;

(c) the categories of the workforce likely to suffer as a consequence thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to rehabilitate the affected workforce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) So far Hindustan Shipyard Limited have relieved 801 employees under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme—85 belonging to the category of officers, 232 of staff and 484 of workmen. The main reason for reduction in the strength is the lack of orders for the main activity of the Shipyard, namely, Shipbuilding and the acute cash flow position. The question of any category of workforce suffering and their consequential rehabilitation does not arise as the reduction is under an established Voluntary Retirement Scheme wherein admissible compentation is paid to the retiring staff.

Revision of bus fares

342. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised fare of buses charging flat fare of Rs. 1.50 in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of this revision and the effective date therefor;

(c) whether this revision has duly been published to the commuters of Delhi;